

*Beard* in the at least one outer portion] and to hinder re-entrainment [in the outer portion] of material separated from the fluid.

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the courtesy of the telephone interview granted by the Examiner during which the above amendments to claim 60 were discussed. More particularly, upon a review of the Response filed February 7, 2000, the Examiner maintained the position that the subject matter of claims 60-69 was not patentable over the prior art. The above amendment to claim 60 is believed to clearly distinguish the invention of claims 60-69 over the art as discussed during the telephone interview. Accordingly, allowance of all of the claims in the application is believed to be in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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